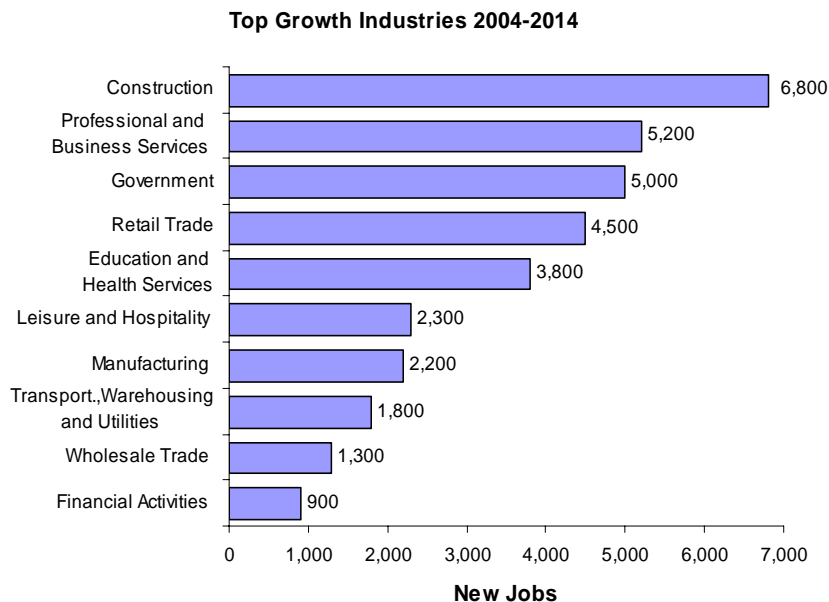


# Kern County Projection Highlights

## Industry

Effective with the employment projections for 2004-2014, Self-Employment, Unpaid Family Workers, and Farm Employment have been added to nonfarm wage and salary employment to represent total employment. Kern County's total employment is expected to grow about 1.5 percent, on average, each year between 2004 and 2014. This growth will add approximately 41,400 new jobs by 2014.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment, which is about 78 percent of total employment, is expected to grow at an average annual rate of 1.6 percent. Nearly 73 percent of all nonfarm wage and salary jobs are forecasted to occur in Construction, Professional and Business Services, Government, Retail Trade, and Education and Health Services. The chart below shows the top ten industries with the most growth.



Industries forecasted to grow faster than the region's average annual rate include Construction (4.4 percent), Professional and Business Services (2.4 percent), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities (2.1 percent).

## Occupations

Occupational projections for the period 2004-2014 forecast:

- About 41,400 new jobs from industry growth,
- Approximately 66,400 job openings from Net Replacements,
- A combined total of about 107,800 job openings.

The 50 occupations with the most job openings will generate about 62 percent of all job openings in Kern County between 2004 and 2014. The addition of Farm employment to the occupational projections in this agriculturally productive region puts Farmworkers and Laborers at the top of the list. Other occupations at the top of the list are Cashiers, Retail Salespersons, and Laborers and Freight, Stock, and Material Movers, all of which typically require short-term on-the-job training. Occupations that require an associate degree or higher such as Elementary School Teachers, General Managers, and Registered Nurses are also forecasted to have a substantial number of job openings over the ten-year period.

Almost one third of the fastest growing occupations listed are construction-related. The majority of the construction occupations require moderate to long-term training. Hourly wages range from \$11.09 for Construction Laborers to over \$28 for Construction Supervisors. Additional occupations that are expected to grow faster than the overall county rate include Computer Software Engineers, Retail Salespersons, Medical Assistants, and Personal and Home Care Aides.

The chart below demonstrates all occupational job openings by education and training level.

